



FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

9:00 AM, Wednesday, November 29, 2017

California High Speed Rail Authority

Central California Regional Office

1111 H Street, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 445-5157

1. Call to Order

CHAIRMAN MICHELLE ROMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 AM. A QUORUM WAS PRESENT, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS LEE BRAND, GERALD LYLES, KENT STRATFORD, PAUL TOSTE AND RALPH WATERHOUSE. MEMBER PETER HERZOG WAS ABSENT.

0:00:28

2. Public Comments

This time is made available to receive comments from the public on matters within the Board's jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda. Attention is called to the fact that the Board is prohibited from taking any action on matters that are not on the Agenda. Members of the public are limited to three minutes to speak during Public Comments as well as for each item on the agenda. In order to accurately record the minutes, members of the public are asked to speak only from the podium. Before beginning comments, please state for the record your name and affiliation, if any. **HELD; FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO DIRECTOR SCOTT BARTON ASKED THAT AGENDA ITEMS 9 AND 10 BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING, EXPLAINING THAT DUE TO THE LONG THANKSGIVING WEEKEND THE ZOOCORP COUNSEL DID NOT HAVE TIME TO REVIEW THE AGENDA MATERIALS. THE CONSENSUS OF MEMBERS WAS TO TABLE ITEMS 9 AND 10 UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.**

0:02:11

3. Consent Agenda

These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Board, the public will be given the opportunity to remove any item from the Consent Calendar. Items removed from the Consent Calendar may be heard immediately following approval of the Consent Calendar.

MEMBER TOSTE MOVED FOR APPROVAL. SECONDED BY MEMBER LYLES, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT FROM THE MEMBERS OR PUBLIC.

- a. Review and approve minutes of August 30, 2017
- b. Review and approve payment of County of Fresno invoice for Professional and Specialized Services in the amount of \$29,770.28 for August, September and October 2017
- c. Receive Treasurer's Reports for August, September, October and the quarter ended October 2017

0:03:05

4. Receive Fresno County Zoo Authority 2016-17 audited financial statements and independent auditor's report from Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation

RECEIVED: THOMAS YOUNG OF BROWN ARMSTRONG PRESENTED THE AUDIT REPORT. A CLEAN, UNMODIFIED OPINION WAS ISSUED-THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE OPINION, AND THERE WERE NO ISSUES WITH INTERNAL CONTROL. NO COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE MEMBERS OR PUBLIC.

0:04:34

5. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director's report

RECEIVED: DIRECTOR BARTON INTRODUCED DEPUTY ZOO DIRECTOR AMOS MORRIS FROM MESKER PARK ZOO IN EVANSVILLE, INDIANA, AND NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER RICK TREATCH, WHO HAS VARIETY OF FOR-PROFIT AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION EXPERIENCE.

MR. BARTON REPORTED THAT ATTENDANCE WAS DOWN FROM PROJECTIONS, AND EXPENDITURES HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED; ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR IS ANTICIPATED TO BE 810 820,000, AND A CONSERVATIVE 850,000 FOR 2018. THE BUDGET FOR 2018 IS PROCEEDING AND EXPECTED TO BE PRESENTED IN JANUARY. CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- **WILDERNESS FALLS, EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETE IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS AND TO OPEN WITH THE WARM SPRING WEATHER.**
- **THE WARTHOG PROJECT IS GOING OUT TO BID AND HE HOPES TO RETURN IN JANUARY WITH THE CONSTRUCTION FUNDING REQUEST.**
- **THE ASIA PROJECT DESIGN FUNDING WILL BE REQUESTED TODAY. THE AREA WILL INCLUDE TIGERS, SLOTH BEARS AND A VARIETY OF OTHER ANIMALS.**
- **DESIGN IS PROCEEDING WITH THE ANIMAL NUTRITION CENTER AND PROGRAM ANIMAL BUILDING**

FUTURE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- **WORKING WITH CSU FRESNO ON SOLAR POWER FOR BUILDINGS AND PARKING AREAS FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ZOO.**
- **A CONSERVATION BUILDING, WITH A COST ESTIMATE OF \$250-300,000. WHILE NOT PART OF MASTER PLAN, IT WOULD PROVIDE FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION.**
- **CONSIDERATION OF THE USE OF MEASURE Z FUNDING FOR TEMPORARY OVERFLOW PARKING ON PURCHASED PROPERTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF BELMONT CONVENIENT TO THE ENTRANCE, AND WHICH WOULD REQUIRE A PEDESTRIAN BEACON FOR SAFE CROSSING. INITIAL ENGINEERING ESTIMATE IS \$450,000 FOR 225 PARKING SPACES, OR ABOUT 1300 VISITORS.**

0: 10:46

IN RESPONSE TO MEMBERS' COMMENTS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTY IN FINDING PARKING, MR. BARTON EXPLAINED THE SHORT-, MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM PARKING PLANS.

- **FOR SHORT-TERM; THE BELMONT LOT COULD BE READY FOR NEXT SPRING, IF PLANS MOVE FORWARD.**
- **MEDIUM TERM IS THE PARKING HUB WITHIN ROEDING PARK; A SHARED COST WITH THE CITY, WITH MEETINGS TO BE HELD SOON. CONCEPTUAL PLANS BEING DEVELOPED BY YAMABE & HORN ENGINEERING INCLUDE ABOUT 250 SPACES, WITH THE CITY RECEIVING THE REVENUE. THE 6- TO 8-MONTH CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COULD BE COMPLETED IN 2019.**
- **LONG-TERM, PERHAPS IN FOUR TO FIVE YEARS, THE ZOO CORP WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE AND PROVIDE SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM THE FORMER K-MART PROPERTY AT OLIVE AND GOLDEN STATE BLVD, CURRENTLY USED FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL CONSTRUCTION STAGING. THIS LOT COULD ACCOMMODATE SEVERAL HUNDRED SPACES.**

0:16:05

6. Receive Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Financial reports for August, September and October 2017

RECEIVED; CFO RICHARD TREATCH PRESENTED THE REPORT FOR OCTOBER. REVENUES AND ATTENDANCE ARE 15% UNDER BUDGET THIS MONTH-AN IMPROVEMENT FROM AUGUST AT 18% UNDER, AND SELF-GENERATED REVENUE IS 7% UNDER BUDGET. COSTS ARE ALSO DOWN. PERSONNEL AND TOTAL EXPENSES ARE 11.3% AND 10.4% UNDER BUDGET, RESPECTIVELY. MEMBER LYLES EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT THE DECLINE IN ATTENDANCE WAS DUE MORE TO THE NEWNESS OF EXHIBITS THAN THE WEATHER, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SOMETHING NEW TO BRING VISITORS. MR. TREATCH CONCURRED, AND MENTIONED THAT PARKING AND POOR AIR QUALITY WERE FACTORS AS WELL.

0:20:31

7. Approve an additional \$100.00 for Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation FY 2017 Measure Z Operating budget for Electronic Funds Transfer fees reimbursement

AUTHORITY TREASURER MEGAN MARKS PRESENTED THE REQUEST. DUE TO PROCESSING MORE CLAIMS IN 2017 THAN INITIALLY PROJECTED, ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO COVER FEES.

AFTER A MOTION BY MEMBER LYLES AND A SECOND BY MEMBER BRAND, THE RECOMMENDED ACTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC OR BOARD MEMBER COMMENT.

0:22:00

8. Approve Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation request for FY 2017 Measure Z Capital funds totaling \$266,601.00 for the conceptual and schematic design of the Asian Exhibits Project

MR. BARTON PRESENTED THE REQUEST FOR FUNDING THAT WILL PROVIDE THE SCOPE AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE PROJECT WITH AN ANGKOR WAT RUINS THEME. EARLY CONCEPTUAL PLANS WERE HANDED OUT, CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS COULD BE FINISHED IN LATE 2018, AND WITH ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF FOR CONSTRUCTION, THE PROJECT COULD OPEN IN EARLY 2020.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC COMMENT OF SUPPORT WAS RECEIVED FROM MRS. PAUL CHAFFEE.

MR. BARTON RESPONDED TO MEMBERS' QUESTIONS ON THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST (\$15M), HARD COSTS AND SOFT COSTS THAT INCLUDE PROJECT MANAGEMENT, PERMITTING AND ENGINEERING, ANIMALS TO BE A PART OF THE EXHIBIT AREA, INCLUDING TIGER, RHINO, SLOTH BEAR, ORANGUTAN, KOMODO DRAGON AND FRUIT BAT, AND MULTIPLE EXHIBIT AREAS FOR TIGERS, NEW GUEST PATHWAYS AND EXPERIENCES.

AFTER A MOTION BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE AND A SECOND BY MEMBER TOSTE, THE RECOMMENDED ACTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

0:29:45

CHAIRMAN ROMAN STATED THAT ITEMS 9 AND 10 HAD BEEN PULLED FROM THE AGENDA.

0:29:49

9. Approve proposed amendments to Fresno County Zoo Authority Retention Policy

10. Approve revisions to Authority's *Procedures for Approving and Administering Measure Z Funds*

0:29: 50

11. Receive second draft of Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report and provide direction to staff
AUTHORITY BOARD COORDINATOR CATHY CROSBY PRESENTED THE REPORT THAT INCLUDED ITS DISTRIBUTION, ESTIMATED PRINTING AND MAILING COSTS, AND EXPECTED FEBRUARY 6, 2018 PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MEMBERS COMPLEMENTED THE INFORMATIVE ANIMAL DIET THEME AND ITS PRESENTATION IN THE REPORT. CHAIRMAN ROMAN RECALLED HER PRESENTATION OF LAST YEAR'S REPORT TO THE KINGSBURG CITY COUNCIL. SHE ALSO MENTIONED IT AT A MEETING OF THE FRESNO COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND RECEIVED POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM OTHER MAYORS. MS. CROSBY CREDITED THE REPORT'S DESIGNER COUNTY GRAPHIC ARTIST GINA BARR FOR HER CREATIVITY.

AFTER A MOTION BY MEMBER BRAND AND A SECOND BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE REPORT WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

0:34:54

12. Receive staff reports

MS CROSBY REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THE HIGH SPEED RAIL BOARD ROOM AND THE RETIREMENT OFFICES' NEW BUILDING; FILING 2017 STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTEREST VIA THE E-DISCLOSURE ON-LINE SYSTEM, WHETHER MEMBERS WISHED TO RETAIN THE ZOOAUTHORITY.COM DOMAIN NAME, AND RECENT WEBSITE TRAFFIC STATISTICS.

MEMBERS EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE TO MEET AT THE NEW RETIREMENT BUILDING, AND NOT TO RENEW ZOOAUTHORITY.COM.

TREASURER MEGAN MARKS REPORTED THAT, CONTRARY TO HER AUGUST REPORT AND DUE TO INTERVENING CHANGES IN HER DEPARTMENT, SHE WILL BE CONTINUING AS AUTHORITY TREASURER UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

0:44:58

13. Board meetings

a. Adopt 2018 meeting calendar

AFTER A MOTION BY MEMBER TOSTE AND A SECOND BY MEMBER BRAND, THE 2018 MEETING CALENDAR WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Approve next meeting date. Dates include:

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

DIRECTOR BARTON STATED THAT THE ZOO WOULD NOT HAVE ANY BUSINESS FOR DECEMBER, BUT WOULD LIKE TO BRING THEIR 2018 BUDGET AND THE WARTHOG CONSTRUCTION REQUEST IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER LYLES TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 27, 2017 MEETING, AND HOLD THE NEXT MEETING ON JANUARY 31, 2018. SECONDED BY MEMBER WATERHOUSE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

0:47:49

14. Chair's comments

CHAIRMAN ROMAN WISHED EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

0:48:08

15. Board Member comments

MEMBER WATERHOUSE ECHOED THE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS.

0:48:16

16. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:48 AM.

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Fresno County Zoo Authority, 2220 Tulare Street, 8th Floor, Fresno, 93721, during regular business hours.

For further information, please contact Catherine Crosby, Zoo Authority Coordinator, at 600-4305, email zooauthority@co.fresno.ca.us, or visit www.zooauthority.org. Requests for disability-related modification or accommodation needed in order to participate in the meeting must be made to the Zoo Authority Coordinator no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day prior to the meeting.